THE

WEEKLY MAGAZINE,

OR

EDINBURGH AMUSEMENT.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17. 1771.

To the PUBLISHER *of the* WEEKLY MAGAZINE.

The peaceful peaſant to the wars is preſt,
The fields lie fallow in inglorious reſt. DRYDEN.

SIR,

THE hiſtory of all free nations, and the tranſactions of the preſent age, afford us many inſtances of the violence and injuſtice of faction —This is an evil inſeparable from the bleſſing of liberty. As long as liberty ſubſiſts in any nation, men of high ambition and parts will ſtrive to advance themſelves, by raiſing complaints and clamour againſt thoſe who are in poſſeſſion of power. They will be ſupported by men who, in various ranks of life, have the ſame aſpiring views, by an ignorant and credulous rabble, and even by diſcerning and impartial friends of liberty, when they ſee no other means to bring about a deſirable change in the ſtate, or get the better of an odious adminiſtration. Wiſe men therefore will not be much alarmed at the appearances of faction, as long as it can be reſtrained, by the moderation of honeſt men, from producing fatal commotions or dangerous inſurrections againſt a well eſtabliſhed government. I doubt not that every ſober and good man in Great Britain, blames, in his heart, the exceſſes of a faction which has lately rioted in the ſouthern parts of this kingdom. This faction has ſtirred up and promoted, with ſtrange ſucceſs, a moſt unnatural and unpolitical diſtinction and diſaffection between the people of the two united kingdoms. They have encouraged a ſpirit of animoſity in our colonies againſt the mother-country, equally hurtful to both—They have inſulted the king without any ſhew of reaſon—Diſturbed the peace of the kingdom: and, by all theſe means, they have excited our com-

mon enemies (who but very lately were reduced to the loweſt ebb of humility by the united power of Britain) to ſtir up a new war, and to take advantage of our divided and diſtracted ſtate. This is a juſt picture of the faction—yet, after all, the true lovers of Britain, the legitimate ſons of liberty, have no cauſe to fear any fatal conſequence from thoſe evils of faction. As, in the courſe of our domeſtic diſorders, the beſt men deſerted this faction, when, in its wild career, it threatened dangerous meaſures; ſo, if we have a war, faction will be quiet—Britain will again exert its united power—and our enemies will repent their temerity, as they did at the concluſion of the laſt glorious war. I return, therefore, to my firſt propoſition, that faction is inſeparable from liberty; and I muſt add, that though the people of North Britain are juſtly intitled to praiſe, in ſo far as they denied all aid to the violence of oppoſition, and even with much unanimity oppoſed it; yet, on the other hand, it is incumbent upon us to be very careful, while we avoid one extreme, leſt we fall into another extreme more dangerous and diſgraceful to a free people, I mean the want of a juſt and proper, a rational, and even a zealous concern for the liberties of our country. *Let us not be too tame neither.* It were better to be agitated by the paſſions of faction, mixed with the ſpirit of liberty, than to be debaſed by a ſervile compliance to power, and an undiſtinguiſhing attachment to the perſons who get uppermoſt in the *ſcrambles* for preferment. A moſt illuſtrious body of our nobles have lately gained immortal honour by their oppoſition to the *dictates* of power, which had almoſt become habitual, though inconſiſtent with every notion and idea of liberty. The election of *temporal* Scots peers, like the election of *ſpiritual* Engliſh peers, was directed by a *Conge d'Elire*. Let us honour and diſtinguiſh thoſe truly glorious peers, who have, with real dignity, and without the diſorderly ſpirit of faction, aſſerted the liberties and independency of their high order. But let us not neglect the ſtill more eſſential rights of the commons of Scotland, and of the people in general. The power and affluence of noble families may continue to ſubſiſt under arbitrary government, and they are ſometimes made ſubſervient pillars to ſupport a tyranny. But the proſperity and happineſs of the people depends wholly on the preſervation of their liberties. A tyranny may leſſen the importance of nobility, but it is ſure deſtruction to the great *body* of the people. I have been led into theſe reflections by a repeated obſervation, which I have made with much concern, that, in the courſe of the laſt war, and lately ſince the threatening of a new war, our magiſtrates in Scotland have not acted with ſo much reſerve and tenderneſs to the liberty of the ſubject in the affair of impreſſing men as might have been expected, and as perhaps they would have obſerved, if properly cautioned. Let us not repeat grievances, nor dwell on an unpleaſant ſubject. Suffice it to obſerve what every one will remember, that, during the laſt war,

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many *hard things* were done, unallowed by law, unpractiſed in England, in order to promote the buſineſs of impreſſing men both for the land and ſea ſervice. This country, juſt riſing to induſtry and improvement, was drained of men, who ſerved the public with diſtinction, and were applauded for their ſervice by the great leader of that war. Let us forget, *as ſoon as we can*, the bad returns we had for this ſervice from the citizens of London, though they reaped the largeſt ſhare of the benefits which aroſe from that ſucceſsful war. It is yet too recent to be quite forgotten, that *Wilkes* became a favourite and *popular* gentleman among them, before he had any other merit than the merit of an infamous and illiberal abuſe of this country. Upon the firſt appearance, however, of a new war, as ſoon as authority was iſſued for impreſſing men, our principal magiſtrates did not wait (as perhaps in prudence and propriety they might have done) till the example was led by our neighbours, more opulent and intereſted in the events of war; they immediately publiſhed liberal premiums to encourage volunteers. This conduct may admit of a generous conſtruction. Let us allow the beſt conſtruction. But ſure it is the duty of our magiſtrates to ſhew a decent regard for the intereſt of our country, and a proper tenderneſs for the liberty of thoſe valuable men who are the objects of this unconſtitutional practice. They ſhould not ſtir one ſtep beyond the known limits which are preſcribed by the acts and proceedings of the beſt and wiſeſt magiſtrates in England. I do by no means intend to recommend the example of certain patriotic aldermen, &c. (as they are moſt improperly called), who have refuſed to indorſe warrants, and have acted upon the principle that impreſſing is altogether illegal.——The practice of our wiſe neighbours the *Dutch* may indeed convince us, that, on great occaſions, naval levies may be effectually made by methods conſiſtent with liberty. But, till our legiſlature ſhall eſtabliſh ſuch ſalutary and deſireable methods, we muſt ſubmit to a practice which the law has tolerated, but never has authorized. Let us, however, in this act, as the beſt magiſtrates do in England, with tenderneſs and concern for our fellow-ſubjects, equally intitled to liberty as ourſelves, yet ſuffering for the public intereſt an occaſional ſubjection to arbitrary power. Every lover of his country muſt earneſtly wiſh, that our magiſtrates may be actuated by the ſame ſpirit. I have heard reports of ſtrange abuſes and exceſſes in this buſineſs, tho' there is yet no certainty of a war. I hope there is no foundation for theſe reports. I have heard that an incredible number of fine young lads, all under age, have been lately trepanned into the ſervice of the *Eaſt-India company*, from *one conſiderable town* in the north; and that the magiſtrates in ſome of our burghs, from notions, I ſuppoſe, of diſtinguiſhing their zeal in the ſervice, have gone about perſonally in the execution of preſs-warrants, and have made no diſtinction between *land* and *ſea-men*. But I muſt own I could no longer reſtrain my indignation from breaking out

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in this monitory manner, when I very lately ſaw a public advertiſement from the magiſtrates of *Muſſelburgh*, in a ſtrain ſo extraordinary, that it might well ſerve as a model for magiſtrates acting under the authority of the Great Turk or the king of Pruſſia, when theſe monarchs intend, for the ſins of the world, to levy forces by force, in order to compleat the ſlaviſh numbers in their fleets and armies. As I have a favour for your publication, I gladly obſerved that this ſtrange advertiſement did not make its appearance in your paper. I will, however, beg leave to inſert it *verbatim* here, as a text for the obſervation and curioſity of ſuch readers as may not have ſeen this notable piece.

ADVERTISEMENT.

Muſſelburgh, 2d January, 1771.

"THIS night we had a viſit of two of his *majeſty's lieutenants*, 'with their *preſs-gangs*, on getting information of ſailors *ſkulking* 'in or about this place The *two gentlemen* behaved *moſt polite*, 'and applied to the *magiſtrates* firſt, *who, with their conſtables*, 'went *along* with them, *and laid open every door* where any ſuſ-'pected perſon *was thought* to be, but without any ſucceſs; the 'magiſtrates haye given orders to their conſtables, to ſee that no 'ſkulkers, *either ſea or land-men, have any reſidence in this place.*"

The compliment beſtowed on the *two gentlemen, lieutenants* of the *preſs-gang*, that they behaved *moſt polite*, is, to be ſure, very innocent; but I wiſh theſe *gentlemen magiſtrates* would be pleaſed to explain where they have learned, that it is agreeable to duty or decency for magiſtrates to *go along* with *preſs-gangs*, and what legal or other authority they have *to lay open every man's door where any ſuſpected perſon was thought to be*. It is certainly a *moſt extraordinary order*, that *no ſkulkers, either ſea or land-men ſhall have any reſidence in their town*. If any of *themſelves* ſhould preſume to *ſkulk* from a *preſs-gang*, they are clearly ſubjected to this awful *interdictio aquæ et ignis*; for, if the latitude of *preſſing* reaches *land-men*, there is no rule nor room for diſtinction. The *arbitrary will* of *preſs-gangs* is *our law*. But they will do well to conſider, if any conſtruction of law, or tolerated practice, has yet extended to the power of impreſſing *land-men*; and magiſtrates in general will do well to advert, that, without an expreſs act of parliament (which has always been temporary, and relative only to vagrants, or perſons having no lawful employment), to impreſs land-men may be conſidered as a violation of the liberty of the ſubject, and as an illegal and oppreſſive act.

I ſhould not have beſtowed this public animadverſion on the conduct of the magiſtrates of *Muſſelburgh*; however odd it may appear, if it had not coincided with my deſign to convey a general, and, I am conſcious, a well intended caution for the attention of my countrymen.

I

I am ſenſible that this letter has drawn out to a length, perhaps improper for your paper; but the importance of the matter will, I hope, ſerve for my excuſe, and recommend it to your publication. I am, SIR,

Perth, Jan. 11. 1771. Yours, *&c.*

SCOTO-BRITANNUS.

To the Publiſher *of the* Weekly Magazine.

SIR,

AS I am a weekly reader of your Magazine, have ſent you ſome thoughts on the preſent manner of manning the Royal Navy, by violently impreſſing ſailors, the loſs of which I daily feel as a merchant, and, as a Britiſh ſubject, ſee very inconſiſtent with our free and noble conſtitution.

If you think proper to give the within looſe hints a place in your next paper, it may perhaps fall into the hands of ſome patſiot lord or member of parliament, who will improve them to ſome uſeful purpoſe, whereby ſo great a grievance may be in ſome meaſure redreſſed, otherwiſe, they may at leaſt amuſe your readers.

Edinburgh, Jan. 11. 1771. Yours, &c.

J. T. B.

Propoſals for preventing the Neceſſity of Impreſſing ſo many Sailors, and more eaſily Manning the Royal Navy.

SIR,

IF we ſuppoſe a foreigner, whoſe mind is fired with the love of liberty, and has with pleaſure learned and admired the Britiſh conſtitution, whoſe free-born ſubjects, hiſtory informs him, are ſo ſafe in their perſons and property, that the meaneſt peaſant can have legal redreſs againſt the higheſt lord.

When he reads of the noble efforts made by our anceſtors, who eſtabliſhed the *Magna Charta, Bill of Rights, &c.* thereby he would naturally ſuppoſe, that the loweſt ſubject, without guilt, could not be detained, or violently impriſoned, by any public officer, nay, nor by majeſty itſelf: But ſuppoſe this foreigner to arrive in Britain at this period, and behold a preſs-gang, with a naval officer at their head, running from houſe to houſe, and tearing, by force of arms, thouſands of uſeful, induſtrious and brave free-born ſubjects from their habitations, and hurrying them to what ſhip or priſon they pleaſe; he would as naturally aſk, What crime have they committed, that they are thus puniſhed? But how great his amazement when told, that they were guilty of no other than being art and part, perhaps, with brave Admiral Hawke, in deſtroying the French fleet, or having a hand in humbling the proud Dons, and burning their ſhips at the Havannah? for which ſervice thouſands, after waſting their bodies with fatigue, and

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braving every danger, were paid two or three pounds as their ſhare of the mighty ſpuilzie, then diſbanded, and allowed to go home in poverty, to ſhift for themſelves? And now theſe are the criminals whom he ſees dragged away like felons.

This ſtranger would certainly think the hiſtories of Britiſh freedom were all fictitious, and that he came to as deſpotic a government as any of the eaſtern empires. But were he to aſk the reaſon of this ſtrange procedure at a ſenſible man, he would tell him, that, though we have noble laws for the protection of our perſons, yet neceſſity ſometimes ſuperſedes them, and the ſenate of Great Britain are obliged to wink at the higheſt oppreſſion, to prevent an immediate ſuppreſſion of our laws, or a conqueſt of our country by our enemies, who are ſo near, and ſo conſtantly watching to catch us at an unguarded hour.

Would he not ſay, Is there no remedy to prevent this? Surely there is, if properly conſidered. I therefore, through the channel of your Magazine, will give ſome hints, which, ſhould a patriot in power think proper to improve, may be of uſe to prevent the growing evil of impreſſing brave ſailors, by making them volunteers to the Britiſh flag. The retaining a number of ſeamen has been often propoſed, but never put in execution. If the government would allow two hundred thouſand pounds *per annum*, to be paid only in time of peace, to forty thouſand able bodied ſailors (which is juſt 5 l. per man), whoſe names ſhould be duely regiſtered in the cuſtom-houſes of the different ſea-ports, and who ſhould never go on any voyage without intimating it to the proper officer, and, at any ſurmiſe of a war, ſhould be confined to ſail only in the narrow ſeas, there would be near that number of brave volunteers ready at all times to man the fleet.

It has been thought, that a great number of more ſhips ſhould likewiſe be kept in commiſſion at the cloſe of a war, whereby from ten to twenty thouſand more ſailors might be continually in pay. Surely no money can be better employed than in ſupporting the Britiſh navy, the very ſight of whoſe lofty ſhips, cruizing along our enemies coaſts, would keep them in awe, confirm the peace, and be an honour to Britain. Neither do I ſee any reaſon why moſt of theſe ſhips might not be profitably employed as tranſports in carrying out ſtores, men, &c. to all our foreign forts and colonies, and bringing home maſts, hemp, flax, pitch, tar, pig-iron, and other materials for the royal navy: perhaps ſome would not think it below the dignity of a king's ſhip to be employed in carrying from diſtant colonies other branches of trade.

Would it not be likewiſe extremely reaſonable, that our colonies ſhould be obliged to pay 5 l. per man in time of peace, to ten or twelve thouſand ſailors of their countries, to be retained and ready at all times to man the ſhips of war ſent out to protect them and their trade from ruin.

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Our ſeamen, of all ſubjects, have made the nobleſt efforts in defence of their country, and merit the eſteem of every Briton: five pounds *per annum* in time of peace, is but a ſmall reward for their bravery; for, in time of war when they are in pay, that annuity would ceaſe. This would have a happy effect to increaſe their number; for inſtance, if a poor man had many ſons, inſtead of allowing them to be liverymen, coachmen, valets, or ſome ſuch inſignificant members of the ſtate, he would make them ſailors, knowing that ſoon they might have 5l. *per anuum*, which, to a poor man, is no ſmall addition to his family; and ſhould hoſtilities now commence, it is hoped the noble plan which was adopted laſt war, will take place, of granting three years protection to able bodied landmen of twenty years old, who, for that ſpace, ſhall be employed as ſailors in trading ſhips, to ſupply theſe taken to the navy. This bounty would be the beſt motive to draw them to the ſea-ſervice; whereas at preſent there is the greateſt diſcouragement to ſuch. They come from their different employments, and ſerve three years to become ſailors; when peace is made, having no more uſe for them, they are obliged to return again to their occupations aſhore, till another war commences, when they are hunted out and dragged from their houſes, becauſe they once ſerved at ſea. But had they once reaped the advantage of 5l. *per annum*, they would lay their account to fight when called for, or might have ſons to ſupply their place.

Another great advantage attending this ſubſidy would be retaining our ſailors and carpenters in Britain, many of whom, at the cloſe of a war, are obliged to go into foreign ſervice, to the great loſs of our trade, and advontage of our neighbouring rivals in manufactures and ſhipping.

Two hundred thouſand pounds *per annum* appears a large ſum, but how ſoon exhauſted in uſeleſs penſions to thoſe whoſe opulent eſtates need no addition, and ſubſidies to foreign princes, which a well manned fleet would render unneceſſary. But ſuppoſing ſuch a plan impoſſible in theſe our venal days, on a calculation, that ſum would not come to ſix-pence per head in the year, by a poll-tax on the inhabitants of Britain and Ireland. By the preſent embargo on the immenſe trade of this iſland, the nation ſuffers much more than that ſum, in half the time of this dreadful ſplutter for ſeamen, who are obliged to keep themſelves in hiding both from trade and from war.

I could mention many more advantages attending this ſcheme, but they would exceed the bounds of a letter. If theſe looſe hints ſhall produce more proper animadverſions on ſo important a ſubject, ſo as to indnce thoſe in power to form ſome plan to prevent the confuſion and uncertainty of manning the royal navy, it will give great pleaſure to Yours, &c.

J. TRUE BRITON.

An

An ADDRESS *to the* P—— S *of* SCOTLAND: *Juſt publiſhed.*

Our right reverend brethren continue to dwell together in the ſtricteſt political unity; whether it be like the dew of Hermon *upon the hill of* Sion, *or like the ointment that ran down into* Aaron's *beard, and to the ſkirts of his cloathing,* I *cannot ſay; but I am ſure, it is a good joyful thing for the* Miniſters *to behold. This has enabled them to prevent any inquiry into the ſcandalous method of* nominating, *inſtead of* electing, *the ſixteen Scots Peers: And theſe, and they together, make a* moſt dreadful body *in that houſe.* Swift's Letters, vol. p. 120.

MY L——DS,

THAT the nomination of perſons to public offices, and the election of repreſentatives to the great council of ſtate, in any free government, ſhould often be influenced by *private* bribery and corruption, is a matter of ſuch daily experience, that it has long ſince ceaſed to be ſurpriſing. If, however, it ſhould be affirmed, that, in a free government, ſuch as that of Britain, where all ranks of men are perpetually boaſting of their liberty, and ever jealous of any incroachment upon it, there is a certain number of the members of the great national council, whoſe election into that honourable ſtation is not obtained by the uninfluenced choice of their electors, nor procured by the indirect means of private bribery and corruption, but openly *commanded* by the mandate of the p-em--r, the aſſertion might, at firſt ſight, appear abſurd and incredible. And if, to augment the paradox, it ſhould farther be affirmed, that theſe members, thus *not elected,* but *nominated,* are the repreſentatives of the firſt order of men in the ſtate, of the higheſt rank, nobleſt blood, and moſt independent fortunes, who, it might therefore be expected, ſhould ſtand foremoſt in defence of their freedom againſt illegal incroachments, the ſuppoſition might be treated as the wildeſt political chimera.

Yet ſuch, in fact, has been the ſtate of the p——s of S———d, who have been deprived of the free e—l—n of their own repreſentatives, not by any eſtabliſhment of law, but by a tame and ignominious ſurrender of their own rights to the arbitrary invaſions of m—r—l power.

At the union of the kingdoms, upwards of an hundred and fifty p——s of S———d yielded up their moſt valuable privilege, their nobleſt inheritance, their hereditary right to a ſeat in the great council of their native kingdom. The p——s of E———d preſerved to themſelves their privileges undiminiſhed and unimpaired; while thoſe of S———d gave up their moſt precious birth-right, and accepted in place of it, a repreſentation by only *ſixteen,* to be choſen by "*open election and plurality of voices,*" members of each p———t of Great Britain.

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If, my L—ds, you had preſerved the rights ſecured to you by law, and had ſupported the true dignity and independence of your order, by maintaining the free election of your own repreſentatives, even the ſurrender of the rights of nine tenths of your number might have been eaſily pardoned. Nay, your ſituation might have been viewed in no unfavourable light; and, whether with regard to honour or to intereſt, might have ſuffered no diſadvantage, even upon a compariſon with the condition of the p——s of that kingdom to which your own was united.

When a young lord perceived, that it was only by the free and deliberate choice of his p——s, he could attain the honourable diſtinction of repreſenting them in the ſupreme council of the nation, he would be excited to diſtinguiſh himſelf by ſuperior virtue and ſuperior talents. In place of waſting his time in idle riot or frivolous diſſipation, he would ſtrive to improve himſelf by every uſeful and elegant accompliſhment. The gallant ſoldier, who diſplayed his proweſs in the ſervice of his country, the virtuous patriot of approved integrity, the generous encourager of every uſeful and every liberal art, would be rewarded with the applauſe of his country, and be called forth to repreſent it in the ſupreme council of ſtate. A generous emulation would ariſe among the young nobility, who ſhould moſt diſtinguiſh themſelves by exhibiting the brighteſt example of virtue and abilities, and who ſhould moſt deſerve the public approbation and applauſe. The Engliſh p——r, on the other hand, already by the dull prerogative of birth, poſſeſſing the greateſt honour to which the ſubject of any free ſtate can aſpire, enjoyed no ſuch noble incitements to make himſelf conſpicuous by the exertion of his talents, or the virtue of his conduct.

If it might have improved the virtue and merit of your order, could it be neceſſary to ſhew that it would alſo have been your intereſt? Whether electors or elected, it would have been equally your advantage. Could it ever be the intereſt of the p—rs of Scotland to hold their ſeats by the precarious tenure of the will of a m——r? Nominated by him, you would be held dependent upon his pleaſure; and the price of the mighty honour you had received, would be certain compliance with every meaſure which he ſhould be pleaſed to ſuggeſt. If you complied not, immediate diſmiſſion from the ſervice would inevitably follow: If you did, it would be no more than the expected return for that mark of diſtinction which he had been graciouſly pleaſed to confer upon you. But if, on the other hand, you ſhould be ſent into that moſt reſpectable aſſembly to give counſel to your king, to be one of the legiſlators of your country, and one of the ſupreme judges of the lives and properties of your fellow-ſubjects, not named by the mandate of a m——r, but called upon to that important charge by the eſteem, the reſpect, and the confidence in which you are held by your country, how different would be your importance and your

influence? If the laſt ſhould be the caſe, the electors would find in the elected grateful, able, reſpectable, independent protectors, ever ready to encourage, and to aid them in their juſt pretenſions. If the former ſhould be the caſe, the conſtituents would find themſelves, unconnected with, and unſupported by their repreſentatives, neglected by the m——r, and deſpiſed by both.

When ſuch were the alternatives, have the p——rs of S—— made the proper choice; and have they been watchful to preſerve the remains of their former privileges, and to maintain the honour, dignity, and independence of their order? Deprived of ſo much, have they become more jealous of incroachments upon the little which was left? Or, on the other hand, deſpoiled of a part, have they not tamely ſurrendered all? Have they not ſunk into the moſt abject dependence, and, like true ſlaves, quietly ſubmitted to the rod of authority, without the leaſt ſymptom of mutiny or diſcontent?

Like all incroachments upon the rights of a people, that upon your privileges was made by degrees. M——rs have uſually had abilities ſufficient to give a colour to their meaſures. If they invaded your rights, they did not dare to offer a direct inſult to your underſtandings. At firſt, a modeſt hint of the inclinations of the m——r was all that was attempted. That once become familiar, another artful mode of intimating the liſt of the m——r ſucceeded. But the nomination was then by one of your own number, long the known chief director of the public affairs of Scotland, a man perſonally acquainted with every one of your order, a diſcerning judge of merit, and with whom, if with any one, a power ſuch as this might have been ſafely intruſted.

Of late years, the public affairs of this country have been governed in a different manner. Your repreſentatives have been nominated by m——rs, unacquainted with your perſons, and ignorant of your characters; and a letter iſſued from a public office, written by a clerk and ſigned by a *pro tempore* m——r, is the authoritative mandate by which you have been required to elect the perſons whom he has been pleaſed to ſuggeſt.

Ill uſage muſt at length rouſe even the moſt ſubmiſſive ſpirits. A very recent attack upon your privileges was too plain and palpable not to alarm the dulleſt apprehenſion. A few years ago, a nominal p—r, not poſſeſſed of any property in this kingdom, and therefore not of any legal or proper qualification, was *nominated* by the m——r, and *obſequiouſly* elected by your l——ps. The experiment proving ſucceſsful, has been ſince repeated. A noble l—d, however reſpectable his character may be, yet, poſſeſſed of no legal qualification, unknown in Scotland, but ſome how connected with one of the Engliſh m—— ry, was named to ſucceed the late d—— of A——le. This was, if poſſible, a ſtill greater inſult than the former, becauſe it was a p——ge originally created by an arbitrary p—ce, in open contempt and violation of a moſt

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ſalutary ſtatute, to which he had but a few years before given his r—l aſſent

Your l———ps were at length rouſed by this indignity to your order, and this invaſion upon the rights of your country. Self-defence called upon you to oppoſe the nomination; and, though treated as if you had neither ſenſe to feel, nor ſpirit to reſent, you have ſhewn that you are neither deficient in ſpirit nor underſtanding. You claimed your juſt right of naming your own repreſentative; and, to ſupply the preſent vacancy, you have propoſed a moſt reſpectable l—d of an ancient and illuſtrious family, and poſſeſſed of every legal and proper qualification to intitle him to your choice.

After your l———ps had united in the honourable defence of your rights and privileges, and had engaged your votes to the noble l—d whom you had propoſed as candidate, the m——r withdrew his nomination, and a mandate has been iſſued in favour of another noble l—d. But, although the noble perſon now nominated is legally qualified, and in every reſpect moſt worthy of the honourable diſtinction to which he aſpires; yet, in place of atoning for the former indignity, this new m——r—l nomination ſeems a new inſult to your order, and an aggravation of all former injuries.

When theſe laſt commands were iſſued, did not the m——r know that your l———ps had already engaged your votes to the candidate of your own nomination? How could he then ſuppoſe, that, upon receiving his commands, your engagements were at once to become void, and that you were implicitely to ſubmit to his dictates? How low do you appear to ſtand in the eſtimation of the E——ſh a———n? And how low would you not be, if ſuch uſage did not rouſe your ſpirit, and kindle your reſentment?

This new nomination has been indeed well termed a wanton experiment, how far men in dependency will bear with ill uſage. It is no better than the caſe of the poor dog, who having been taught to leap over a ſtick, his maſter, to continue the practice, obliged him always to do ſo before he would allow him to touch a bit of victuals. Upon one occaſion, the maſter, attentive to another buſineſs, held the ſtick higher than it was poſſible for the dog to ſurmount; when the poor animal properly neglected it, and walked the ſhorteſt way to his meal. But this would not do: he was preſently turned back; the ſtick was placed at a *moderate* height: and the dog muſt jump before he could obtain a ſingle morſel.

It is now full time for your l———ps to beat down the rod which has been ſo long held over you. A wanton exerciſe of an illegal power has awakened your ſpirit, and has rouſed you to vindicate your juſt rights from thoſe who had long uſurped them. It is no ſufficient excuſe, that m——rs have been generally upright in their choice. Neither is it ſufficient to ſay, that the noble

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and very reſpectable l——ds who now repreſent you, are every way worthy of the honourable diſtinction which they have obtained. It is full time to aſſert your freedom, and to check an arbitrary dangerous uſurpation. It is a ſufficient objection to this new nomination, that it is the nomination of the m——r. Admitting it upon this occaſion, would be humbly acknowledging the indiſputable right of the m——r to nominate, providing only he names a perſon legally qualified. Voting for the m——l candidate would, by thoſe who have engaged themſelves to their own candidate, be plainly admitting, that all private promiſes, all private engagements, muſt yield to the ſupreme irreſiſtible commands of the E——ſh m——r.

The puſillanimous, who have ever at hand the daſtardly pretext of prudence to cover their own timidity, may perhaps ſay, that the m——r's having changed the nomination is a ſufficient reparation of the injury, and that to proceed farther in oppoſition would be factious. Your l——ps, I am certain, are moſt averſe to faction, or to any unjuſt oppoſition to government. You love your king, and reſpect his miniſters. You deteſt the wanton inſolence and licentious outrage of a deſperate faction which has unhappily prevailed in the ſeat of government, and diſgraces the times in which we live. But, it would be unjuſt to brand with the name of faction, NECESSARY SELF-DEFENCE, the vindication of your juſt rights and privileges, declared by law, not denied by adminiſtration, and only incroached upon by illegal and unjuſtifiable uſurpation. Thoſe of your l——ps who now nobly ſtand forth in defence of your freedom, deſerve, and will ſurely receive, the grateful honours and applauſe of your country. Unite cloſely together; and think not your end attained till you have accompliſhed the recovery of your freedom. Let not the collected ſpirit of ſixty years be diſſipated in a ſingle ſolitary effort. Reſt not ſatisfied till you ſhall have completely reſcued from ſhameful bondage the honour, dignity, and independence of your order. Proceed till you ſhall have finally atchieved the glorious undertaking; and the deed ſhall remain, to ages unborn, a noble and honourable monument of your patriotic ſpirit.

A Friend to Government, an Enemy to Faction, and a zealous Wellwiſher to the dignity and independence of the Peers of Scotland.

On the Uncertainty of the Appearances of Death.

THE author of a work, which I have juſt been reading, obſerves, that people ought to be extremely cautious in burying thoſe who ſeem to die of hyſteric and hypocondriac diſorders, of apoplexies, or any kind of ſudden death; he juſtly cenſures the cuſtom of laying out too ſoon, and expoſing to the cold, thoſe who

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are ſuppoſed to be dead; and aſſerts, that there is no infallible ſign of death but the beginning of putrefaction.

This author has wiſely ſtrengthened his reaſoning by a number of well-atteſted facts. The ſubject is of the utmoſt importance; and I am perſuaded that the following ſhort hiſtories, extracted from this valuable performance, will be no diſagreeable, no unuſeful entertainment, ſince they may poſſibly tend to lengthen ſome valuable life, by making perſons more cautious in affairs of ſuch prodigious conſequence.

The firſt inſtance which I ſhall beg our author's leave to mention, is that related by M. Peu, a ſucceſsful ſurgeon and man-midwife at Paris, who acknowledges, that, being warmly ſolicited to perform the Cæſarian ſection on a pregnant woman, whom he thought perfectly dead, becauſe he perceived no pulſation in the ſides of the breaſt; and, becauſe a mirror applied to her mouth was not tarniſhed by her breath, he did not heſitate to begin the operation; but he had hardly plunged the point of the inſtrument into the integuments, when the trepidation, or trembling of the patient's body, the grinding of her teeth, and the motion of her legs, convinced him, though too late, of his raſhneſs. The blunder filled his mind with ſuch terror, that he bound himſelf by an oath, never, for the future, to attempt the ſame operation, till he was thoroughly ſatisfied of the death of the pregnant woman.

In ſhort, the number of facts collected by our author leave no room to doubt of the danger attending precipitate interments; and, if what he and ſome of the greateſt phyſicians have ſaid, with reſpect to drowning in particular, be true, almoſt all thoſe who have periſhed in this manner in England, might have been reſtored to life. But I ſhall not at preſent advance any thing on this ſubject, and ſhall conclude with a little entertaining hiſtory, extracted from the eight volume of *Cauſes celebres & intereſſantes*.

"Two merchants, living in the ſtreet of St Honorius, were connected with each other by the moſt ſacred and inviolable ties of friendſhip, poſſeſſed of equal fortunes, and concerned in the ſame branch of trade. The one had a ſon, and the other a daughter, nearly of the ſame age: the firſt ſentiments which made the daughter ſenſible that ſhe was capable of love, alſo convinced her that her heart belonged to the ſon, who, in his turn, was no leſs attached to her. This reciprocal inclination was encouraged, and kept up by frequent viſits, authorized by both fathers, who with pleaſure obſerved the diſpoſitions of their children exactly ſuited to the intention they had of rendering them huſband and wife. Accordingly, a marriage was juſt about to be concluded between them, when a rich collector of the king's revenues made his addreſſes to the young lady as a lover. The deluſive charms of a ſuperior fortune ſoon induced her parents to change their reſolution with reſpect to their neighbour's ſon, and the lady's averſion

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to her new lover being ſurmounted by her filial duty, ſhe married the collector, and, like a virtuous woman, diſcharged the gentleman whom ſhe loved from ever ſeeing her again. The melancholy brought on by an engagement ſo fatal to her happineſs, threw her into a diſorder, in which her ſenſes were ſo locked up, that ſhe was taken for dead, and interred as ſuch.

"We may readily ſuppoſe that her firſt lover was not the laſt perſon who heard the melancholy accounts of this accident; but, as he remembered that ſhe had before been ſeized with a violent paroxyſm of a lethargy, he flattered himſelf that her late misfortune might poſſibly be produced by the ſame cauſe. This opinion not only alleviated the exceſs of his ſorrow, but alſo induced him to bribe the grave-digger, by whoſe aſſiſtance he raiſed her from her tomb, and conveyed her to a proper chamber, where, by the uſe of all the expedients he could poſſibly imagine, he happily reſtored her to life

"The lady probably was in no ſmall conſternation when ſhe found herſelf in a ſtrange houſe, ſaw her darling lover ſitting by her bed, and heard the detail of all that had befallen her during her lethargic paroxyſm. It was no hard taſk to make her entertain a grateful ſenſe of the obligation ſhe lay under to her deliverer; the love ſhe had bore him proved a moving and pathetic orator in his behalf; ſo that, when ſhe was perfectly recovered, ſhe juſtly concluded that her life belonged to him who had preſerved it; and, to convince him of her affection, went along with him to England, where they lived for ſeveral years, ſuperlatively happy in all the tender endearments of mutual love.

"About ten years after, they went to Paris, where they lived without any care to conceal themſelves, becauſe they imagined that no-body could ever ſuſpect what had happened. But, as fortune is too often an implacable enemy to the moſt ſincere and rapturous love, the collector unluckily met his wife in a public walk, where the ſight of her well-known perſon made ſuch a ſtrong impreſſion on his mind, that the perſuaſion of her death could not efface it; for this reaſon, he not only accoſted her, but alſo, notwithſtanding the diſcourſe ſhe uſed in order to impoſe upon him, parted from her, fully perſuaded that ſhe was the very woman to whom he had been married, and for whoſe death he had gone into mourning.

"As the whimſical nature of this event clothed the lady with a ſet of charms which the collector never before imagined her to be miſtreſs of, he not only diſcovered her apartments at Paris, in ſpite of all the precautions ſhe had taken to conceal herſelf, but alſo claimed her as his ſpouſe before the court authorized to decide in ſimilar caſes.

"In vain did the lover inſiſt upon the right he had to her, reſulting from the care he had taken of her. To no purpoſe did he repreſent, that, without the meaſures taken by himſelf, the lady

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would have been rotting in her grave; that his adverſary had renounced all claim to her, by ordering her to be interred; that he might be juſtly arraigned as a murderer, for not uſing the precautions neceſſary to aſcertain her death; and a thouſand other reaſons ſuggeſted by love, which is always ingenious where it is ſincere. But perceiving that the court was not like to prove favourable to him, he reſolved not to ſtay for its deciſion, and accordingly made his eſcape along with the lady to a foreign climate, where their love continued ſacred and entire, till death conveyed them to thoſe happly regions where love knows no end, and is confined within no limits."

The Art of growing Young.

To the PRINTER, *&c.*

SIR,

IT is not a little aſtoniſhing, that age, which ſo terrifies us, ſhould nevertheleſs be ſo much coveted by all the world. We are all aſhamed to be old, and yet we all deſire to live long enough to be as venerable as Methuſelah. On the other hand, in our juvenile years, we think it a diſhonour to be young: a girl wants to be a woman, and a boy a man, long before the time allotted by nature. Hence it is, that Miſs, ſcarce in her teens, affects the dreſs and appearance of her Mamma; and the ſmock faced youth, without the down of ſixteen, makes uſe of his penknife for a razor.

It muſt, however, be acknowledged, that the ladies in general are much more addicted to the ſuppreſſion of years than the men, as they conſider beauty more immediately their province, and too well know that age, even in a *Ninon de l'Enclos*, will wither the lillies and roſes of a fine face. I have been acquainted with ſeveral ladies, who not only ſtopped the courſe of time in this reſpect, but abſolutely made repriſals for what was paſt, by dropping a year gradually as they advanced. I have an aunt, who is now, according to the Bible, than which no authority can be more orthodox, in her forty-fourth year; but having, for theſe laſt four years, ſunk an annual rotation, ſhe is, at this period, agreeable to her ſupputation, juſt in her ſix and thirtieth; ſo that ſix years hence, inſtead of fifty, ſhe will be exactly thirty. This is grinding young again without a mill; but the misfortune is, the ſure index of age appears upon her forehead, and every additional wrinkle is an additional teſtimony in favour of the Bible.

The conduct of my *young* aunt makes me frequently call to mind that ludicrous paſſage in the *Diable Boiteux*, where two ladies are examined before a notary, who aſks their reſpective ages. The lady of ſixty-nine acknowledges herſelf forty; but the lady of forty-eight thinks it a very impertinent queſtion; however, at length being hard puſhed, ſhe ſays very whimſically, *Si cela eſt abſolument*,

ſolument neceſſaire, regardez moi donc avec attention, & mettez mon age en conſcience. "If it be abſolutely neceſſary, examine me attentively, and let your conſcience dictate."

Upon their retiring from their examination, the old lady laughs at the folly of the notary, who could be ſo ſimple as to imagine they would give in their real age to be pronounced againſt them in open court; then acknowledges ſhe had ſuppreſſed twenty years; and thinks the other had done very right in following her example. This remark highly piques the younger, who will not even *now* allow herſelf to be more than thirty-five. But the other telling her, ſhe was preſent at her birth; and adding, "I knew your father; he was not young when he died, and that is near forty years ago," the *young* lady is ſo enraged, that ſhe is willing to ſacrifice her mother's virtue to her vanity and youth, and replies with much warmth, "Oh! as to that, madam, I do not mind it a pin; for when my *father* married my *mother*, he was then too old to beget children."

I know not whether my aunt would call her mother's chaſtity in queſtion upon ſuch an occaſion; but I really believe her's is ſo completely preſerved by time, that it will never be blown upon in the circles of ſcandal, and that ſhe will die a virgin, notwithſtanding the retrograde ſteps ſhe is inceſſantly taking from age towards matrimony. Yours, *&c.* No FOOL.

PASTORALS *from the* GERMAN *of Mr* GESNER.

[Vol. X. p 367.]

MYRTILLUS.

ONE beautiful evening, the ſhepherd Myrtillus had gone to viſit the neighbouring lake, whoſe ſmooth ſurface reflected the light of the moon: the ſerene calm of the country around, enlightened by the mild influence of the queen of night, and the tender accents of the nightingale, had detained him a long while plunged in a tranquil reverie. But he returned at length to the bower interwoven with woodbines and roſes, near his retired cottage. He there, by the mild light of the moon, which ſcarcely pierced through the foliage, diſcovered his good old father, who ſlept in the moſt peaceful tranquility. The venerable old man was reclined upon the turf, his hoary head ſupported by one of his hands. Myrtillus ſtopt ſhort before him, his hands careleſsly folded over each other. In this poſture he remained a long time, keeping his eyes conſtantly fixed upon his father, excepting now and then that he looked up to heaven through the foliage, and tears of joy flowed down from his eyes.

O, my father! ſaid he, thou, whom next to the gods, I honour moſt, how ſoftly doſt thou now repoſe! How pleaſing is the ſleep of the juſt! Thou haſt, without doubt, directed thy tottering

ſteps

ſteps to this retired bower to celebrate thine evening ſacrifice of prayer, and haſt been imperceptibly ſurpriſed by this gentle ſleep. Thou alſo haſt prayed for me: O, my father! how happy am I in thee! O, good old man! the gods ſurely liſten to thy prayers; otherwiſe whence ſhould it be that our cottage is always ſafe from every kind of harm, and ſhaded by branches bent down under the weight of their fruit? For what other cauſe ſhould the bleſſing of heaven be upon our flocks and every production of our fields? While ſatisfied with my poor endeavours to procure repoſe to thy feeble old age, you ſhed tears of joy; whilſt looking up to heaven, thou giveſt me thy bleſſing with an air of content; with what delightful ſentiments am I then filled, O, my father! my boſom heaves, and tears run down my cheeks! But yeſterday, conducted by my aid without our cottage, to enjoy the enlivening heat of the ſun, and contemplating the flocks ſkipping around thee upon the plain, the trees bending under their load of fruit, and fertile luxuriance on all the country round. "My hairs, ſaid he, you have whitened with joy, and I ſhall deſcend to the grave without a ſigh. Ye chearful fields and tufted groves, theſe dear retreats of innocence and peace, may you be bleſt for ever! My dim ſight has now but ſhort time longer left to contemplate thy beauties. I ſhall quickly leave thee for other ſcenes more innocent and happy ſtill." Alas, my father! my beſt friend! muſt I then loſe thee! —melancholy thought! Then, alas! I ſhall erect an altar near thy tomb, and whenever a propitious day ſhall ſhine upon me, in which I ſhall have conferred ſome benefit upon the unfortunate, I ſhall pour forth upon it a libation of milk, and ſtrew thy monument with flowers.

Here he held his peace, viewing the old man with eyes bathed in tears. How peacefully he lies! See, he ſmiles in the midſt of his ſleep; without doubt, added he, his virtuous actions, recollected in his dreams, have ſpread upon his countenance that expreſſion of benignity. What a ſoft luſtre the moon ſheds upon his hoary head and beard, ſilvered over with age. O, may the cold wind of the evening, or the moiſt nocturnal dew, do him no harm! At theſe words he ſoftly kiſſed his forehead to wake him gently, and conducted him to the cottage, where he might enjoy a more commodious repoſe.

To the Publiſher *of the* Weekly Magazine.

SIR,

OF all the improvements which have been made, ſince the beginning of this century, in all the branches of ſcience, I know of none of greater importance to the welfare of mankind, than the improvements already made, and continuing to be made, in the theory and practice of phyſic, and the other ſciences which are connected with them. This is to be attributed to the judici-

ous choice, which has been made, of phyſicians to fill the profeſſor's chairs in the different univerſities of Europe, and eſpecially in the univerſity of Edinburgh.

I therefore congratulate my countrymen, that the preſent profeſſors of medicine, *viz.* Theory, practice, chemiſtry, anatomy, botany, midwifery, ſurgery, and *materia medica*, are men fully capable to teach the branch they undertake, and have contributed much to the advantage of this city, by the numerous train of ſtudents, who come from all parts to attend their lectures.

Nothing could be more abſurd, and more dangerous to the lives of mankind, than the treatment of ſick people within my memory. It was thought that a perſon in a fever muſt be confined to his bed, in a warm room, covered with a load of blankets, and, if the patient endeavoured to relieve himſelf by throwing off the load, he was by force conſtrained to endure it. All acceſs of freſh air was carefully excluded. No drink of a cooling nature allowed. Laudanum avoided as poiſon. Pernicious or nauſeous medicines forced upon the patient; and no ſuch thing as a clean ſhirt or clean ſheets permitted to him. I ſpeak from experience, having been treated in this manner myſelf. Now, at this preſent time, the very reverſe of all this treatment is ordered by every rational phyſician. I am, SIR, Yours, *&c.* T. B.

Real Policy in a Miniſter.

THE man who propoſes to guide the helm of affairs ſhould poſſeſs three eſſential qualities, and unite the character of a great politician to the man of honour. Theſe three qualities conſiſt in *ſtudy*, *experience* and *truth*. By the firſt he is acquainted with paſt times, his predeceſſors, and the real intereſt of princes; by the ſecond he is enabled to form a proper judgment of what he knows, and draw juſt concluſions for his own conduct; and by the third he is always enabled to ſupport his meaſures in the face of day againſt his opponents. As virtue requires no falſe glare, ſo ſound policy does not in purſuing the advantages of a prince, exact any ſteps that infringe upon the rectitude of ſentiment, or the delicacy of honour and conſcience.

It is true that this ſort of politicians are not at preſent in vogue; but, on the contrary, thoſe who know how to avail themſelves of ſurpriſe, chicane, and artifice, who can ſacrifice faith and friendſhip to compaſs their deſigns. Theſe are happily defined by a certain genius in the following words: *Politicus eſt animal rationale, bipes, ita ſerviens Deo, ut non offendat diabolum.* Several great miniſters of the laſt century bore this character, and yet ſhine with uncommon luſtre in hiſtory, which uſually borrows its colouring from intereſt or prejudice, in the hands of the greateſt writers; and with inferior authors is frequently ſo diſfigured as ſcarce to be recognized.

POETRY.

On the First of JANUARY.

HAIL to the new-born year! Adieu the laſt. (paſt;
Since life's a dream, forgot as ſoon as
The future ſtill attracts, the preſent palls,
Spring's proſpect pleaſes when the ſnow ſtorm falls;
Yet when the buds ſhoot forth in ſmiling May, (day,
And the cool breezes bleſs the pleaſing
We tire with gazing on the infant flowers, (ſhowers:
And long for greater heats and ſummer
Bright ſummer comes—the purple violet blows, (roſe,
The bluſhing peyney and the moſs-grown
The peach unfolds her bloſſom to the noon, (ſoon:
And whiſpers to us——harveſt will be
We catch the hint, no more the blooms delight, (ſight;
No longer flow'ry orchards pleaſe the
We then anticipate rich autumn's ſtore,
And long as much as for the ſpring before:
We whet the ſickle with impatient ſigh,
And with, like Phaeton, to rule the ſky;
We gaze on ev'ry cloud with anxious fear, (ning ear,
And feel each day the tall wheat's rip-
It comes—the ground yields up its golden ſtore, (more?
What then can happy mortals wiſh for
Not ſo our ſtate—ſome wiſh is ſtill behind,
Whether ſpring breathes or winter ſpurns the wind;
We long impatient for the nitrous cloud,
To fatten and prepare the earth new plough'd;
Yet when the bleſs'd phyſician rob'd in white, (quite.
Falls over-thick we loſe our tempers
Oh! the poor flocks awake our diſcontent, (ſlent.
And then we curſe what providence has
Be far from me ſuch ways, let me enjoy
Each in the ſeaſon, and no care annoy;
In winter friſking in a warm array,
Make exerciſe ſupply a warmer day:
In ſpring delight in liſt'ning to the lark,
As I ſtray careleſs thro' the lawn or park:
In ſummer's heats ſolace me in the ſhade,
And warm like ſummer woo ſome warm-like maid;
In autumn taſte with glee, fair autumn's ſtore, (more;
And bleſs'd in ſweet content deſire no
And as the ſeaſons vary, and the times
Divert me ſtill with exerciſe and rhymes;
Thus ſhall each day be like a New-year's Day,
And ev'ry ſmiling month be ſweet as May.

The MISLETOE *and the* PASSION-FLOWER.
From Langhorne's *Fables of* Flora.

IN this dim cave a druid ſleeps,
Where ſtops the paſſing gale to moan;
The rock he hollow'd o'er him weeps,
And cold drops wear the fretted ſtone.

In this dim cave, of diff'rent creed,
An hermit's holy aſhes reſt:
The ſchool-boy finds the frequent bead,
Which many a formal matin bleſt.

That truant time full well I know,
When here I brought, in ſtolen hour,
The druid's magic Miſletoe,
The holy hermit's Paſſion-flower.

The offerings on the myſtic ſtone,
Penſive I laid, in thought profound,
When from the cave a deep'ning groan
Iſſued, and froze me to the ground.

I hear it ſtill—Doſt thou not hear?
Does not thy haunted fancy ſtart?
The ſound ſtill vibrates through mine ear——
The horror ruſhes on my heart.

Unlike to living ſounds it came,
Unmix'd, unmelodiz'd with breath;
But, grinding thro' ſome ſcrannel frame,
Creak'd from the bony lungs of death.

I hear it ſtill—"Depart," it cries;
"No tribute bear to ſhades unbleſt:
"Know, here a bloody druid lies,
"Who was not nurs'd at Nature's breaſt.

"Aſſociate he with dæmons dire,
"O'er human victims held the knife,
"And pleas'd to ſee the babe expire,
"Smil'd grimly o'er its quiv'ring life.

"Behold his crimſon-ſtreaming hand
"Erect!—his dark, fix'd, mord'rous eye!"
In the dim cave I ſaw him ſtand;
And my heart died—I felt it die.

I ſee him ſtill—Doſt thou not ſee
The haggard eye-ball's hollow glare?
And gleams of wild ferocity
Dart thro' the ſable ſhade of hair?

What

What meagre form behind him moves,
With eye that rues th' invading day;
And wrinkled aſpect wan, that proves
The mind to pale remorſe a prey?

What wretched—Hark—the voice replies,
"Boy, bear theſe idle honours hence!
"For, here a guilty hermit lies,
"Untrue to nature, virtue, ſenſe.

"Tho' nature lent him powers to aid
"The mortal cauſe, the mutual weal;
"Thoſe powers he ſunk in this dim ſhade,
"The deſp'rate ſuicide of zeal.

"Go, teach the drone of ſaintly haunts,
"Whoſe cell's the ſepulchre of time;
"Tho' many a holy hymn he chaunts,
"His life is one continued crime.

"And bear them hence, the plant, the flower;
"No ſymbols thoſe of ſyſtems vain!
"They have the duties of their hour,
"Some bird, ſome inſect to ſuſtain."

On the Death of the brave Marquis of GRANBY. *A* BALLAD.

By MICHAEL CLANCY, *M. D.*

ALL in the councils full debate,
And Britain's monarch at their head;
As they were fixing Spain's defeat,
In came the news of GRANBY dead.
From ev'ry boſom ſprung a doleful ſigh,
And floods of ſorrow fill'd each weeping eye.

Our king, whoſe truly tender heart,
From the rich ſtore of virtue mov'd,
Griev'd that death's quick, untimely dart
Had ſtruck the chief he moſt approv'd,
Our ſtrongeſt bulwark lives no more, he ſaid,
And Britain's glory is in aſhes laid.

Deep ſunk in thought, the nobles found
Their hearts in ſilent anguiſh rent;
For when the ſmart is too profound,
There's no relief in vain complaint:
Sudden a tumult in the clouds was heard,
And England's genius in their ſight appear'd.

Not in majeſtic ſplendor ſeen,
As when her thunder ſhook the globe;
Sorely afflicted was her mien;
Pale, wan, and clad in ſable robe:
Now may proud Gaul inſult our naked ſhore,
For Britiſh Cæſar wields the ſword no more.

O Britain's ſons! your high renown
To earth's remoteſt bounds be ſpread;
Added thoſe laurels to the crown,
Whoſe fragrant bloom ſhall never fade;
And were your champion's life of longer date,
All ruling heaven ſaw your pow'rs too great.

When touch'd by fate's deſtructive blow,
A CHURCHILL or a MANNERS dies,
Thoſe honours he deſerv'd below,
To everlaſting triumphs riſe;
Rais'd by th' Almighty to that bliſs he fought,
Ranks with bright angels who his battles fought.

Kilkenny in Ireland, Nov. 14. 1770.

On viewing the Picture of Miſs POLLY BOWEN *of* Briſtol.

FLATTERY oft, like a magic ſpell,
The empty head bewitches;
More oft—when beating boſoms ſwell,
And throb for ſudden riches.

With hope to gain ten thouſand pound,
How many poſt to ruin;
And, for an empty airy ſound,
Contrive their own undoing.

'Tis ſtrange ſo many fools we find,
By *fortune* thus deluded;
And by a trifling turn of mind,
From real bliſs excluded.

May life's true bleſſing, *calm* content,
Polly, attend thy ſlumbers;
Nor dream of profit *cent. per cent.*
Nor *wed* for ſake of *numbers*.

Thro' all *life's* various ſtages, care
Our *peace* will oft diſquiet,
Like a free gift it comes: we ne'er
Need be in haſte to buy it.

They who intent on *ſhadowy* ſchemes,
By *beaus* and *bards* are bubbled,
Deſerve to wake from *golden-dreams*,
With diſappointment doubled.

Unmov'd by fortune's fickle wheel,
O *Polly—Chance* deſpiſe;
Court virtue with *unbating zeal*,
She'll give the *higheſt prize*.

THE REVIEW.

The Life of HENRY ST. JOHN, *Lord Viſcount* BOLINGBROKE. [P. 52.]

BOLINGBROKE being raiſed very near the ſummit of power, began to perceive more nearly the defects of him who was placed there. He now began to find that lord Oxford, whoſe party he had followed, and whoſe perſon he had eſteemed, was by no means ſo able or ſo induſtrious as he ſuppoſed him to be. He now began from his heart to renounce the friendſhip which he once had for his co-adjutor; he began to imagine him treacherous, mean, indolent, and invidious; he even began to aſcribe his own promotion to Oxford's hatred, and to ſuppoſe that he was ſent up to the houſe of lords, only to render him contemptible. Theſe ſuſpicions were partly true, and partly ſuggeſted by Bolingbroke's own ambition; being ſenſible of his own ſuperior importance and capacity, he could not bear to ſee another take the lead in public affairs, when he knew they owed their ſucceſs to his own management. Whatever might have been his motives, whether of contempt, hatred or ambition, it is certain an irreconcilable breach began between theſe two leaders of their party; their mutual hatred was ſo great, that even their own common intereſt, the vigour of their negotiations, and the ſafety of their friends, were entirely ſacrificed to it. It was in vain that Swift, who was admitted into their counſels, urged the unſeaſonable impropriety of their diſputes; that while they were thus at variance within the walls, the enemy were making irreparable breaches without. Bolingbroke's antipathy was ſo great, that even ſucceſs would have been hateful to him, if lord Oxford were to be a partner. He abhored him to that degree, that he could not bear to be joined with him in any caſe; and even ſome time after, when the lives of both were aimed at, he could not think of concerting meaſures with him for their mutual ſafety, preferring even death itſelf to the appearance of a temporary friendſhip.

Nothing could have been more weak and injudicious, than their mutual animoſities at this juncture; and it may be aſſerted with truth, that men who were unable to ſuppreſs or conceal their reſentments upon ſuch a trying occaſion, were unfit to take the lead in any meaſures, be their induſtry, or their abilities ever ſo great. In fact, their diſſenſions were ſoon found to involve not only them, but their party, in utter ruin; their hopes had for ſome time been declining, the Whigs were daily gaining ground, and the queen's death ſoon after totally deſtroyed all their ſchemes with their power.

Upon the acceſſion of George I. to the throne, dangers began to threaten the late miniſtry on every ſide; whether they had really intentions of bringing in the Pretender, or whether the Whigs made it a pretext for deſtroying them, is uncertain; but the king very ſoon began to ſhew, that they were to expect neither favour nor mercy at his hands. Upon his landing at Greenwich, when the court came to wait upon him, and lord Oxford among the number, he ſtudiouſly avoided taking any notice of him, and teſtified his reſentment by the careſſes he beſtowed upon the members of the oppoſite faction. A regency had been ſome time before appointed to govern the kingdom, and Addiſon was made ſecretary. Bolingbroke ſtill maintained his place of ſtate ſecretary, but ſubject to the contempt of the great, and the inſults of the mean. The firſt ſtep taken by them to mortify him, was to order all letters and packets directed to the ſecretary of ſtate, to be ſent to Mr Addiſon; ſo that Bolingbroke was in fact removed from his office, that is, the execution of it, in two days after the queen's death. But this was not the worſt, for his mortifications were continually heightened by the daily humiliation of waiting at the door of the apartment where the regency ſat, with a bag in his hand, and being all the time, as it were on purpoſe, expoſed to the inſolence of thoſe who were tempted by their natural malevolence, or who expected to make their court to thoſe in power by abuſing him.

Upon this ſudden turn of fortune, when the ſeals were taken from him, he went into the country, and having received a meſſage from court, to be preſent when the ſeal was taken from the door of the ſecretary's office, he excuſed himſelf, alledging, that ſo trifling a ceremony might as well be performed by one of the under ſecretaries, but at the ſame time requeſted the honour of kiſſing the king's hand, to whom he teſtified the utmoſt ſubmiſſion. This requeſt, however, was rejected with diſdain; the king had been taught to regard him as an enemy, and threw himſelf entirely on the Whigs for ſafety and protection.

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THE POLITICAL CLUB.

Mr E——D B—KE's Speech *in the* Robinhood Society, *on the 27th of November.* [P. 57.]

THE objects now under our conſideration ſeem to me to be of great importance, and to deſerve ſomething more than a ſilent vote. I will, therefore, with the leave of the room, endeavour to throw ſome light on the ſubject.

Several gentlemen have dwelt, with a kind of ſecret complacency and ſatisfaction, on the high antiquity of the attorney-general's power of filing official informations. They have ſet before our eyes, in every engaging light, the reſpect and reverence which it has derived from the unſavoury mouldineſs and venerable rust of ages. The monarchy has ſubſiſted and flouriſhed moſt during the exiſtence of this power. Why then quarrel with it at the preſent juncture, when it is likely to prove moſt beneficial? I will not ſay that there is no weight in this reaſoning, becauſe I will not ſay that there is any queſtion without its difficulties. Moſt queſtions have, like Janus, two faces; and if you view only one of them, you may, with a little management, make your favourite ſide aſſume a pretty fair and comely appearance. Something of this legerdemain is obſervable on the preſent occaſion. While the oppoſers of the motion celebrate the flouriſhing ſtate of the monarchy during the exiſtence of this power, they forget to prove to us that it owed that happineſs to the attorney-general. It is the fate of narrow minds and confuſed heads to miſtake one cauſe for another, and to make nature as great a chaos as their own brain. Were it neceſſary, we might eaſily trace the flouriſhing ſtate of the monarchy up to other cauſes, and demonſtrate by facts, that this inſtitution retarded, rather than accelerated its growth. But there is no occaſion for fetching ſuch a tedious compaſs. Arguments enough have been already advanced to prove it unconſtitutional, and incompatible with liberty. What can be a clearer evidence of its having never benefited the kingdom? The ſame arguments which prove it now prejudicial, prove it prejudicial ever ſince its commencement. But what if it ſhould be ſhewn not to have the ſanction of antiquity? I have enquired, among others, into this point; but Fortune has not been favourable to my diligence. I have not been able to trace it into the darkneſs and obſcurity of remote ages. Nay, I have found it to be modern, and as it were of yeſterday. Far from fixing it as high up as Edward III. I have been obliged to come much farther down for the ſource. The words *matter of record*, which have been quoted, did not mean official informations. Bracton, who is allowed by all to be a good authority, mentions *actions popular*, which, I apprehend, were founded on theſe expreſſions. But *actions popular* were not the ſame as official informations: and, in ſhort, I have, upon the minuteſt inquiry, been forced to allow them but a modern date.

Thus then it appears, that the oppoſers of the motion cannot take refuge under the wings of antiquity. They are beat out of the entrenchments of Gothic rubbiſh, under which they hoped to remain impregnable. Whither now will they fly for ſhelter? To a majority of voices. In theſe alone, not in argument, will they prove victorious. If we have any diſcretion, any ſhame left, we muſt agree to this motion, and either totally abolish, or modify the attorney-general's power of filing official informations. Were there no other argument for this meaſure, but that ſingle one advanced by the oppoſer, that the office is odious and ſuſpected, it would in the opinion of any ſober man be ſufficient. For, as all government was originally inſtituted for the eaſe and benefit of the people, no eſtabliſhment, which gives them nothing but uneaſineſs, can be approved by a wiſe legiſlature. Let it then be cut off from the conſtitution as a rotten limb, which eſcaped the notice of our forefathers in the hurry and precipitation of the revolution. But we are not preſſed by neceſſity. There is no complaint of any late abuſe of this power. This I flatly deny. The power has been egregiouſly abuſed in the caſe of Almon. Why was he ſingled out, and proſecuted before the reſt of his brethren? He, whoſe guilt, if any, was only nominal? Why was not the original publiſher and others, who had no excuſe to alledge, firſt brought to juſtice? Here I believe every man diſcovers malice. Almon had been active in promoting certain meaſures not very agreeable to the cabal. He had publiſhed certain journals, which contained anecdotes, that ſome people, high in office and power, could wiſh to have buried in eternal oblivion. It was reſolved to puniſh him for theſe acts of temerity. Hold was therefore laid of this ſlender twig. But what enſued? The c——ts dare not make uſe of the ſtrange verdict procured againſt him.

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The only cauſe which the attorney-general has been able to carry againſt libellers, he cannot turn to any account. From him we learn, that the office is ſo odious and deteſtable to the people, that it does not anſwer any of the purpoſes for which it was intended. Has he not here ſaid enough to induce us to aboliſh or to modify it? Yes, certainly, if we do not ſuppoſe, with ſome ſpeculative politicians, who will juſtify the court at all points, that the people are corrupt, and that the courts of juſtice and the adminiſtration are blameleſs. For I muſt aver, that one of theſe three propoſitions muſt be true, elſe ſuch attrocious libels as we have lately ſeen, could never have paſſed unpuniſhed. Now I can ſee no reaſon for ſuppoſing that the people have ſunk to the very dregs of corruption, that they naturally delight in ſlander and detraction, and love to protect libellers and defamers. It is not long ſince they would not bring in a libeller guilty even at the ſuit of the attorney-general. In the reign of George II. no ſuch mortifying repulſes were received from juries, even when a dangerous rebellion raged in the very heart of the realm. Government was ſufficiently reſpected to maintain its authority. Shebbeare was without any difficulty puniſhed with impriſonment and pillory; and many other delinquents were chaſtiſed by the lath of the law. Even ſo late as the beginning of his preſent majeſty's reign, when the minds of men truſted to his own benign and auſpicious diſpoſition, and were not ſoured by the interpoſition of undue influence, the laws had not loſt their ſalutary terrors. Do you aſk a proof? The forty-fifth number of the North Briton is an undeniable evidence of my aſſertion. The jury without any difficulty found the publiſher guilty; what then has wrought ſo ſudden a change in the temper and diſpoſition of the people, that they now countenance the moſt audacious and wicked libels? In ſo ſhort a time they cannot have become abſolutely corrupt. What then is the cauſe of this ſtrange phenomenon? Are the courts of juſtice depraved and impure, and do they out of ſpite and malice contradict and oppoſe them? I hope not; I hope they are unimpeachable. I believe, nay, I know, the ſcandalous reports, which are circulated, to be ill founded. Where then ſhall we look for the origin of this relaxation of the laws and of all government? How comes this Junius to have broke through the cobwebs of the law, and to range uncontrouled, unpuniſhed, through the land? The myrmidons of the court have been long, and are ſtill, purſuing him in vain. They will not ſpend their time upon me, or you, or you. No: they diſdain ſuch vermin, when the mighty boar of the foreſt, that has broke thro' all their toils, is before them. But what will all their efforts avail? No ſooner has he wounded one than he lays down another dead at his feet. For my part, when I ſaw his attack upon the k—g, I own my blood run cold. I thought he had ventured too far, and that there was an end of his triumphs. Not that he had not aſſerted many truths. Yes, Sir, there are in that compoſition many bold truths, by which a wiſe p——e might profit. It was the rancour and venom, with which I was ſtruck. In theſe reſpects the North-Briton is as much inferior to him, as in ſtrength, wit and judgment. But, while I expected from this daring flight his final ruin and fall, behold him riſing ſtill higher, and coming down ſonſe upon both rooms of this ſociety. Yes, he did make you his quarry, and you ſtill bleed from the wounds of his talons. You crouched, and ſtill crouch, beneath his rage. Nor has he dreaded the terrors of your brow; Sir, he has attacked even you; he has, and I believe you have no reaſon to triumph in the encounter. In ſhort, after carrying away our r—l Eagle in his pounces, and daſhing him againſt a rock, he has laid you proſtrate. K—g, L—ds and C——ns, are but the ſport of his fury. Were he a member of this club, what might not be expected from his knowledge, his firmneſs and integrity? He would be eaſily known by his contempt of all danger, by his penetration, by his vigour. Nothing would eſcape his vigilance and activity. Bad miniſters could conceal nothing from his ſagacity; nor could promiſes, nor threats, induce him to conceal any thing from the public.

But why do I dwell upon Junius alone? there are numberleſs other libellers, whom you cannot reach. Secure in the protection of the people, they laugh at the terrors of information to ſcorn. All your meſſengers of the preſs, all your tribes of informers, are as much deſpiſed as they are deteſted. What is the cauſe of this general averſion to law, this univerſal conſpiracy againſt government? We have ſeen that it ariſes neither from the natural depravity of the people, nor from the accidental miſbehaviour of our courts of law. What is the concluſion? The whole is chargeable upon a——n. The m——rs are

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the grand criminals. It is their malverſation and unconſtitutional incroachments, that have roufed up in the nation this ſpirit of oppoſition, which tramples under foot all law, order and decorum. Till they are removed and puniſhed, the land will be nothing but a ſcene of anarchy and confuſion. It is not that I do not approve of the propoſed inquiry into the conduct of our judges. Though I believe the reports to be falſe and groundleſs, yet as a friend to the judges, as a friend to the people, whoſe ſuſpicions will thus be removed by approbation, reprehenſion or puniſhment, I cannot help giving it my hearty concurrence. There is a letter directed to one of the judges, which charges him with high crimes. Will you allow that paper to walk abroad without any notice? You have tried every expedient for quieting the people, but that of removing the offence. Were it only for the ſake of experiment, it would be worth your while to try what effect this meaſure would have upon the public.

HISTORY.

JANUARY 10.——to 17.

GERMANY.

Vienna, Dec. 15. "Their imperial and royal majeſties being willing to encourage the manufactures of the empire, have forbidden the importation of ſilks, ſtuffs, and divers other merchandizes."

Extract of a letter from Vienna.

"By this day's mail I have only an opportunity to acquaint you, that the following regiments are filing off for Trieſte, it is whiſpered, to embark upon a ſecret expedition; we cannot poſſibly divine where. You politicians in England muſt know, for you are infallible in politics—*Infantry:* Starenberg, 2300; Molke, 2300; Pueblo, 2300; Creutzer-Croats, 1600; artillery, 300. Total 8800 men."

DENMARK.

Copenhagen Dec. 8. "The department of foreign affairs has ſent a declaration from the king to all the conſuls, and to the magiſtrates of this city, by which his majeſty permits all captains of ſhips, who navigate in the Algerine ſeas, to attack any of the corſairs of that regency, wherever they ſhall meet them, and to treat them according to the laws and cuſtoms of war as declared enemies."

ITALY.

Genoa, Dec. 10. "They write from Turin, that his Sardinian majeſty has appointed the count de Laſcaris de Caſtellar principal ſecretary of ſtate.—The heavy rains and inundations have made great havock all over Italy, eſpecially in the ſtate of Venice; on which account that republic has ordered the maſquerades and all other public diverſions to be ſuſpended."

FRANCE.

Breſt, Dec. 3. "The ſhips in this port are, le Royal Louis of 116 guns, la Bretagne, of 110, la Ville de Paris, of 90, le St. Eſprit, of 80, l'Orient, of 70, le Magnifique, l'Intrepide, le Sceptre, le Palmier, le Defenſeur, le Diademe, le Zodiaque, le Minotaure, le Robuſte, le Cuiven, les Six Corps, le Diligent, le Glorieuſe, le Conquerante la Couronne, all of 64 guns; le Northumberlande, of 68, le Prothee, of 64 l'Actif, le Sphinx, l'Evielle, le Solitaire, le Vengeur, l'Union, le Brilliant, l'Artiſien, le St. Michel, of 64 guns, four ſhips of the firſt rate, 16 of the ſecond rate, and 11 of the third rate. The frigates are la Terpſicore, la Legere, l'Infidele, la Malicieuſe, la Livourne, la Folle, la Danae, la Zaphire, la Renommee, of 26 guns; la Thetis, l'Heroine, la Biche, of 24 guns; beſides five corvettes (advice-boats) and nine flutes."

Toulon, Dec. 6. "The marine in this port conſiſts of two firſt rates, le Languedoc and le Tonnant, both of 80 guns; 20 ſecond rates, le Protecteur, le Zele, la Bourgogne, le Marſellois, le Guerrier, le Souveraine, l'Hector, le Cæſar, of 74; le Content, le Triton, le Lion le Vaillant, le Fantaſque, l'Altier, l'Aventurier, la Recontre, le Hazard, le Provence, le Sage, le Hardi, of 64; one third rate, le Sagittaire, of 50; the frigates are, la Chimere, la Gracieux, la Mignone, la Topaſe, la Plevade, la Fortune, la Sultane, l'Engageante, l'Athelante, of 26; one corvette, la Fleche, of 18; and three bomb ketches, la Tempete,

pete, la Salamandre, l'Etna; the xebecs are, le Requin, of 24 le Renard, le Cameleon, le Sedniſant, le Singe, of 20; le Serpente and la Revanche, from 18 to 14 guns."

Paris, Dec. 31. "It ſeems confirmed that the count de Muy hath at length accepted of the charge of miniſter for war, after having twice refuſed it. It is ſaid that the cardinal de Bernis will be re-eſtabliſhed in the place of miniſter for foreign affairs, and that a courier hath been ſent to Rome to carry him the news of his nomination. It is generally thought at court that the biſhop of Orleans will ſoon quit his dignities, and retire."

Paris, Jan. 3. "We are informed, that the count d'Oſſun, ambaſſador from France to the court of Spain for twelve years paſt, is the perſon who will ſucceed M. de Choiſeul, in quality of miniſter. If this nomination ſhould take place, M. de Guignes will not be recalled."

WEST-INDIES.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman at Guadaloupe, to his Friend at St. John's, Antigua, dated Nov. 8. 1778.

"Yeſterday a guarda coſta came from Martinico, expreſs, with an account that a man of war was arrived in twenty-ſeven days from France, and ſailed directly for St. Domingo, with orders to put all the Weſt India iſlands in the beſt ſtate of defence poſſible; conſequently there is nothing but hurry and confuſion here; tranſporting cannon, ſhot, and other military ſtores, to different batteries. Not only about this town, but all parts of the iſland, they are working with the greateſt ardour.

"All the detachments belonging to the regiments here are called in. The governor ſent yeſterday for all the merchants and captains of veſſels, &c. He was out very early this morning about military works carrying on."

Extract of a letter from Dominica, Nov. 15.

"The proſpect of war we find confirmed from all the French iſles. Our enginaer is now beginning a battery of eighteen guns to defend the town. Count Dennevie, the governor of Martinico, is exceeding buſy at preſent, with a veſt number of hands, in fortifying Martinico and St. Lucia. He has publiſhed a free pardon to all deſerters that ſhall inliſt within a limited time, and gives 61 12s. to every good able-bodied man that inliſts. The merchants at Martinico and Guadaloupe are buying up all the Bermuda ſloops and ſchooners they can lay hands on, for privateers; they give any money for a veſſel that has the name of a faſt ſailor. If we have not ſome ſloops of war to protect our trade, and defend the new ceded iſlands, we ſhall not be able to keep a ſlave upon our eſtates. There has been a great deal of money raiſed in all the iſles by capitation, four and a half per cent. on produce, and not leſs than 30,000l in one iſle by the Free-port act, but how it is diſpoſed of, the governors and treaſurers only can tell."

POSTSCRIPT *to* FOREIGN HISTORY.

Conſtantinople, Nov. 17. "The Ruſſians not having taken any port in the Archipelago proper to winter in, have been forced to abandon thoſe ſeas; and their retreat has rendered the navigation of the Helleſpont quite free, inſomuch that our ſhips, as well as thoſe of other nations, now arrive here daily without the leaſt obſtacle. The Porte hath iſſued an anathema in form againſt the Tartars of the Beſſarabia and the Crimea."

Stralſund, Dec 5. "Wedneſday laſt the powder magazine in this city blew up at the time the workmen were all there; by which terrible accident upwards of an hundred lives were loſt, and more than a thouſand perſons were dangerouſly wounded. Seventy houſes were entirely thrown down, and the windows of all the other houſes in the city were broken."

Marſeilles, Dec. 21. "The court of Vienna is taking great pains to bring about a peace between the Porte and the Ruſſians, and baron Peuckler, formerly envoy-extraordinary from their imperial and royal majeſties to the grand ſignior, hath been diſpatched to the camp of the grand vizir, to accelerate the concluſion."

ENGLAND.

LONDON, JANUARY 5.——to 12.

It is ſaid that advices of a very intereſting nature have been communicated by our miniſter at Vienna, concerning ſome meaſures which the emperor, who ſome time ago concerted them with the king of Pruſſia, are going to be put in execution. It is believed that the above relate to an intention in the court of Vienna to become poſſeſſed of ſome of the weſtern provinces of Poland, in

conjunction with the king of Pruſſia, who has an eye one ſome part of that country which borders on his territories.

It is whiſpered that a certain ambaſſador, at the court of Berlin, has deſired to be racalled.

It is whiſpered, a great northern potentate has renewed an extraordinary demand on the Britiſh court, which is now under conſideration.

A correſpondent ſays, "The ſilent enterprizes of the king of Pruſſia are more worthy the notice of government, than all the noiſe and parade of the French and Spaniards."

A letter from Paris, dated January 3. ſays, "that nothing is yet fixed on reſpecting the appointment of a prime miniſter. The king ſeems utterly at a loſs on whom to make a choice, or the head of what party to eſpouſe. One day he intimates one intention—the next, he reſcinds his reſolution—and the third ſeems in a doubtful perplexity (as appears by ſome expreſſions not altogether unfavourable towards the illuſtrious exile Choiſeul), whether or no the former miniſter ſhall reſume his poſt. Thoſe about the perſon of his majeſty affirm, that, for certain, the king never ſeemed ſo undetermined and in ſuch a labyrinth on any occaſion whatever."

An aſſeſſment by way of free gift is ordered to be made at Paris, from the ſtate of which that city, with its ſuburbs and dependencies, will pay the annual ſum of 1,300,000 livres.

They write from Paris, that the king's revenue officers have ſeized on all the treaſures in the convent of St Francis in Auxerre, in the name of the king.

A gentleman at Calais writes from thence, dated Dec. 24. to capt. Sims, as follows: "In conſequence of a report being ſpread of your being ſeen here, and in other towns, (in diſguiſe) taking plans of ſeveral fortifications, orders are ſaid to be iſſued for apprehending and lodging you in goal.—If this intelligence is of any ſervice to you, my end is anſwered."

They write from Stockholm, that a grand council had been held there, on the ſubject of very intereſting diſpatches received from the court of Verſailles.

Letters from Stockholm mention, that a prodigious quantity of warlike ſtores are now buying by French agents in Sweden, to be ſhipped to the capital ſea ports of France and Spain.

A literary correſpondence has been carrying on for ſome time paſt, between the empreſs of Ruſſia and M. de Voltaire, from whence ſeveral political manœuvres of that great princeſs are attributed to him.

The Dutch, we are informed, in the height of our diſpute with Spain, remonſtrated againſt their entering into a war with us; ſuppoſed to be at the inſtigation of the French, to whom they are particularly wedded, as well by commercial ties and ſituation, as others no leſs forceable obligations.

Some letters from Madrid mention, that the late change in the French miniſtry had thrown the court into much conſternation; but the people were very differently affected, from a perſuaſion that the above change would greatly tend to effect a general peace.

Extract of a letter from Lisbon, brought by the Diana, Capt. Cobb, Dec. 12.

"We never heard any thing of the remonſtrance you mention to have been ſent here, if there was any, they pay very little regard to it; for they behave worſe every day. Perhaps they think we are afraid of them on this occaſion.—I pray God we may convince them of the contrary.—They have no preparation of any kind for war. I ſuppoſe both parties deſpiſe the little aſſiſtance they could give them, and neither care to be troubled with their protection. They have prohibited ſeveral of our manufactures in iron, ſome ſort of ſtuffs, and a law is expected to come out every day, prohibiting hats and ſtockings; ſo you ſee how little they mind your remonſtrance."

By a letter from an officer in garriſon at Portmahon to his friend in London, we hear the apprehenſions of the plague, by permitting the Ruſſian ſhips of war, and their prizes from the Archipelago, is intirely ceaſed; they perform a fourteen days quarantine ſtill, but the people in general on board thoſe ſhips, are acknowledged to be in a good ſtate of health.

By a letter from Philadelphia we are informed, that a large china manufactory is eſtabliſhed there, and that better china cups and ſaucers are made there than at Bow or Stratford.

The Dutch, we are informed, have expreſſed themſelves very much chagrined at the change of miniſters at the French court. The duke de Choiſeul was, it is ſaid, very much in their intereſt, but they know not how the party now in power are inclined.

Yeſterday a council was held, to determine the very important point, peace or war.

A very ſtrong rumour prevailed in the

the coffee-houſes about St James's, that the determination of the council held yeſterday was for terms of peace.

It is poſitively aſſerted, that the queſtion, "Peace or war?" cannot be abſolutely decided till the beginning of next month.

A report having ſtrongly prevailed both in the city and at the weſt end of the town, that the negotiation with Spain was concluded, ſeveral merchants waited on Wedneſday upon lord North to enquire into its authenticity; and, we are aſſured, were informed, that matters ſtill remain in an uncertain ſtate.

Lord Rochford's peculiar knowledge in the politics and intereſts of the ſouthern courts, has led him to give a very juſt opinion for the rule of the Britiſh conduct in her diſpute with Spain; which, we hear, met with great attention in the late council, and preponderated the before mutable ſentiments on that affair.

There was not a negative voice, it is ſaid, to the final reſolve of a powerful and ſecret aſſembly.

Yeſterday the earl of Sandwich kiſſed his majeſty's hand at St James's on being appointed firſt lord of the admiralty, in the room of Sir Edward Hawke, who has reſigned.

We hear that the right hon. Hans Stanley will be appointed ſecretary of ſtate for the northern department, in the room of the earl of Sandwich.

Sir Edward Hawke has refuſed a penſion and a peerage on his reſignation.

When Sir Edward Hawke waited on his majeſty to requeſt permiſſion to reſign, his majeſty graciouſly aſked him, if he had any cauſe for diſſatisfaction, which was in his power to remove? Sir Edward anſwered no; but that his age and infirmities required retirement. His majeſty then offered him an addition to his penſion, or a peerage, which the brave and worthy old officer declined, declaring that he was well ſatisfied with the recompence he had already received for any ſervices he might have done his country.

A correſpondent ſays, "Great blame has unjuſtly been laid upon a worthy gentleman lately in a high naval department, viz that he ſeldom or never rewarded merit in the ſubaltern officers; the true reaſon of which is, he was ſo tied down by others, that he very rarely had it in his power to make even a ſingle lieutenant or purſer.

This morning the earl of Sandwich had a long private conference with his majeſty at the Queen's Palace.

It is that lord Sandwich has declared, that he will be ſomething more than a nominal firſt lord commiſſioner of admiralty, being reſolved to exerciſe the full powers annexed to his office, or give it up.

Notwithſtanding the very ſhort time the earl of Sandwich has been ſecretary of ſtate, we are informed, that his lordſhip is entitled to a quarter's ſalary, and a complete ſervice of plate, both equal in value to 4500l.

Lord S——h has always expreſſed a deſire to be appointed to the lead in the admiralty; and it is imagined to be founded on his experience of the benefits that are to be obtained in that office; the refuſing, or making the leaſt of which, he was never accuſed of.

It is preſumed that the reaſon why lord Sandwich is pitched upon, at this critical ſeaſon, to conduct the affairs of the admiralty, is the knowledge and experience he gained in this department when he formerly preſided at that board.

The preſent changes in the commiſſion for executing the office of lord high admiral of England, are looked upon only as the forerunners of ſome of greater conſequence before the meeting of parliament.

It is ſaid that lord Weymoth will be appointed ſecretary of ſtate of the northern department; in order ſoon afterwards to be placed again in his former poſt; the temporary occaſion of his reſigning now no longer exiſting.

It is ſaid the office of ſecretary of ſtate was offered to Sir Gilbert Elliot, and Mr Stanley, who both refuſed it.

It is ſaid poſitively that Mr juſtice Bathurſt is appointed lord high chancellor of Great Britain, and is to be called up to the houſe of peers by the ſtile and title of baron Bathurſt; and that Mr juſtice Bathurſt's father is to have the earldom of Cirenceſter.

It is ſaid, that on lord commiſſioner B——t's ſoliciting the ſeals, he is ſwayed more by honour than allured by intereſt.

We underſtand that lord M——d, who has all along been for peace, was the principal perſon in bringing about the accommodation with the court of Spain.

There is a report of a bickering between a great lady and her ſon, on the ſubject of peace or war; and that another lady, aunt to the latter, (who does not ſtand very well with the former) has taken the occaſion to wait upon him in private, and remonſtrate with him on the impropriety of his not aſſuming the dignity

dignity of his own character, but having recourse to other perſons, by no means qualified to adviſe him in matters relative to the ſtate.

Notwithſtanding the reaſon there was to preſume, that in the late deliberations on the grand point of peace or war, ſomething final would have been determined, the matter is yet left in a ſtate of ſuſpence.

Politicians (ſays a correſpondent) obſerve, that few miniſters have been ſo fortunate as lord North. He came into power when all America was inflamed againſt the mother country, when a powerful oppoſition threw every poſſible impediment into the way of the ſtate machine at home, and when a miniſter, celebrated for his firmneſs, fled trembling from the chief direction of affairs. Since that period, continues this writer, the Americans have, in general, returned to their duty; oppoſition at home has been almoſt annihilated, and the deliberations of the cabinet have acquired an air of fortitude. The diſcerning therefore are of opinion, that if lord North only conducts himſelf with ſpirit in the preſent diſpute with Spain, he will rivet himſelf in power as well as popularity, and gain the univerſal eſteem of the public, whilſt he is advancing his own reputation.—We leave our readers to comment upon this article.

It is rumoured that lord North will not be in office on the 22d inſtant.

We hear that the admiralty are in daily expectation of having intelligence of the retaking of Falkland iſlands, by the two ſhips that were ſent out five months ago for that purpoſe.

A few days ago an Engliſhman was arreſted at Cherbourgh, and conducted to priſon under a ſtrong guard, ſaid to be accuſed of being a ſpy.

Lord Harcourt, it is ſaid, is the perſon now intended for the viceroyſhip of a neighbouring kingdom on the next vacancy.

The earl of Halifax has not reſigned his place of lord keeper of the privy ſeal, as mentioned in ſome of the papers.

If the preſent altercation between the Engliſh and Spaniards is happily terminated without coming to open war, the Eaſt India company will be enabled, at a trifling expence, to ſend abroad this ſeaſon 14 or 1500 recruits. In contemplation thereof ſeveral ſhips in that trade will be detained at home till the latter end of March next, in order to accomodate the great numbers expected on that occaſion.

Two ſmall French frigates of war, have been obſerved for theſe three weeks paſt, cruizing in the channel, from Beachy-head down as low as the Deadman, to the weſtward of Plymouth. They are ſuppoſed to be ſtationed to obſerve what is paſſing at Portſmouth and Plymouth, having been ſeveral times ſeen quite in with the iſle of Wight, and cloſe to the Mewſtone off Plymouth ſound. This account is confirmed by ſeveral coaſting veſſels employed between Plymouth and the river Thames, lately arrived.

We hear there will ſoon be a very hot preſs for the land ſervice and marines.

On Thurſday Lieut. Aſcough began to erect a large booth on Tower-hill for entering of ſailors, as ſuch numbers offer daily, that the publicans cannot conveniently accommodate them: The booth is to be called Volunteer Hall.

Capt. Williamſon of the Lowther and Senhouſe, arrived at Milford from New-England, brings an account that three or four of his majeſty's ſhips arrived at Boſton with troops, in October laſt.

Yeſterday morning the Swift ſloop of war, was ſent off with diſpatches to Minorca and Gibraltar.

This day the following promotions took place at the admiralty:

Ten poſt captains,
Eight maſters and commanders,
And ten lieutenants.

Orders are ſent to Chatham, to take into pay an extra number of artificers, to expedite the finiſhing the ſhips now fitting out for ſervice, as well as thoſe on the ſtocks.

Mr Dalrymple has almoſt completed every thing, and got all his people and aſſiſtants ready to proceed on his voyage to the Eaſt Indies, to ſettle the new colony of which he is to be governor. It is ſaid that this new ſettlement (which is the joint plan of lord Pigot and Mr Dalrymple) will in ten years be of more importance to the Eaſt-India company than Madras.

Yeſterday policies of inſurance were opened at Loyd's coffee-houſe at 10, 20, 30, and ſome at 40 per cent. on one of our homeward bound Indiamen; which has on board, a rough diamond ſingle ſtone, valued at 100,000 l. ſterling. It is ſent in its primitive ſtate in order to be manufactured here by our ingenious countrymen, for the uſe of an Indian nabob. So high an opinion do the Aſiatics at this time entertain of the abilities of the inhabitants of this nation.

We are ſorry to inform the public, that the Aurora, on board of which the ſupervifors

ſupervifors embarked for India, is certainly loſt in the ſtreights of Sunda.

Lond. Pack.

There has been no advice received either of the loſs or arrival of the Aurora man of war ſince the firſt report: therefore the article in a morning paper of yeſterday is void of foundation.

We hear that on Tueſday laſt orders were given for all the gentlemen belonging to the royal artillery academy at Woolwich to repair to quarters, as draughts are intended to be made for foreign ſervice, when ſeveral commiſſions will be filled up.

Orders are given for ſeveral companies of the royal artillery to hold themſelves in readineſs to embark for the Weſt-Indies.

Ireland is likely to be drained of a conſiderable number of her troops for foreign ſervice. Three ſhips of the line have already been at Cork, and have taken to the Mediterranean ſome pretty large draughts, and now two more ſhips are ordered to the ſame port for ſoldiers; but their deſtination afterwards remains a ſecret.

Lord Chatham, it is ſaid, has neither paid nor received any viſits during the preſent adjournment of parliament, to or from any of the nobility, except the earl of S——ne.

Lord M——d and lord C——n are, at this time, we are aſſured, equally aſſiduous in ſearching into the old books for authorities for and againſt a late doctrine and preparing themſelves for the next meeting of the h—— of l—ds.

It is certain, alſo, that the reſpective law friends of the above noblemen are furniſhing them with all the lights into the ſubject that falls within their knowledge.

The law with reſpect to the doctrine of libels and the power of juries, will, it is imagined, be fully explained and laid down, in an expected controverſy that is ſoon to be ſolemnly entered on, in a particular place.

Tueſday laſt, at the court of aldermen, the right hon. the lord mayor, anxious for the relief of the poor, and having been for ſome time paſt under the diſagreeable neceſſity of raiſing the price of bread, propoſed an importation of wheat and flour from America, and recommended it to the conſideration of that court to loſe no time in applying to parliament for that ſalutary purpoſe.

If protections are not immediately granted by the lords of the admiralty to the men employed in bringing up the corn veſſels, bread will be ſoon advanced 4d. in the peck loaf. A conſiderable number of veſſels have lain above a fortnight, for want of men, in the different coaſts of Norfolk, Suffolk, Eſſex, and Kent, with cargoes on board deſigned for the London market.

A plan has been laid before the lords of the treaſury, by an able financier, for raiſing the extraordinary ſupplies for the ſervice of the preſent year, without having recourſe to the practice of lotteries, which is now under the conſideration of their lordſhips.

A coinage of ſilver is now, we hear, begun at the Tower, and will be ready to iſſue out about April next.

It is remarked that there never was known a greater quantity of baſe metal current than at preſent, ſcarce one ſhilling in ten being worth more than eight pence.

The Commerce, capt. Addie, bound from Hull to New-York, with a valuable cargo, is loſt on the coaſt of Maryland: the crew is ſaved.

We hear that the nobility and gentry of the county of Suſſex are forming a ſociety for the encouragement of manufactures and agriculture, eſpecially ſuch branches of each as are moſt wanting in that county; and that the moſt reſpectable characters of the county are engaged in this laudable undertaking, well worthy being imitated by the ſeveral parts of this kingdom.

The noble, diſintereſted, independent behaviour of his grace the duke of Buccleugh, at the late election for one of the ſixteen peers of Scotland, places him in too conſpicuous a light to be paſſed over in ſilence, as it brings to mind under whoſe example and inſtruction that moſt accompliſhed nobleman was introduced to the public; by his late father-in-law, the hon. Charles Townſend, Eſq; a gentleman and ſtateſman, whoſe conſummate abilities will even rank amongſt our moſt celebrated ſenators, as a chief of that illuſtrious body.

The oppoſition made to the recommendation of the miniſtry in the election of the Scots peers, is the ſtrongeſt that has been of ſome years; and it is hoped from thence, that in a few years more, their influence will be wholly diſregarded, and a free election take place.

The preſent ſtate of Europe.

RUSSIA—ſquabbling with the Turks.
DENMARK—with the Algerines.
FRANCE—with its miniſtry.
SPAIN—with England.
IRELAND—with its lord L——t.
POLAND and ENGLAND——with themſelves.

The

The directors of the East India company have appointed John Stewart, Esq; judge advocate, and secretary to the province of Bengal, in reversion.

A few days past, a man being pursued by a press gang, ran for refuge into a clock maker's in White-chapel, and took shelter in an empty clock-case. The officer and men entered the house, and, after searching for some time, gave him up as lost; but one of the tars looking by accident towards the case, discovered part of the man's face through the glass, and asked the clock master what that was, pointing to the case? The regulator of time answered, "a clock;" "A clock!" replied the sailor, "It has a d——d ugly dial plate, let us look at the guts of it," and accordingly opened it, and conveyed the poor fellow on board the tender.

A few days ago a young lady, living in King-street, Westminster, possessed of a fortune of 10,000 l. at her own disposal, eloped with a footman belonging to a great personage, whose amours with a certain lady cost him 10,000 l. They are supposed to be gone to France.

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH, JANUARY 17.

A letter from a gentleman at Edinburgh, to a gentleman in London, dated Jan. 3. 1771.

"Dear Sir,

"I am glad that I can so easily quiet your anxiety about that opposition to government, which you hear is rising in this part of the united kingdom, where we have hitherto been so happily unanimous, during all the faction and turbulence of the times. You need be under no apprehension on that account, for the present combination among some of the peers of Scotland takes its rise from motives entirely foreign to any of the subjects of debate that of late have disturbed the nation.

"The ministry, ever since the union of the two kingdoms, have had great influence on the election of the sixteen peers for Scotland; insomuch that the peers on the court list have been chosen on every occasion, though sometimes by a very small majority: But then, till of late, that affair was managed by some great men of their own number, who were well acquainted with the inclinations, pretensions, and merits of all the peers, who treated them with respect and delicacy; and though in close connection with the ministry, instead of receiving instructions or mandates from them, gave directions to them, for whom it would be proper to exert their influence. Of late, however, the body of peers have not seemed worthy of so much management. Circular letters have been sent to them on every vacancy, recommending particular men, which, in fact, amounted to a nomination by the ministry.

"At the last general election, lord Irvine, though without any connection with Scotland, or any estate in that country, which, before the union, was a necessary qualification by law to being a lord of parliament, was, by the recommendation of the ministry, elected one of the sixteen peers. On the last vacancy, by the death of the duke of Argyll, the earl of Dysart, a peer of Scotland, but in the same circumstances with lord Irvine, was recommended to the choice of the peers by a circular letter from lord North. Upon this, many of the most independent peers took the alarm; and having, on repeated occasions, been very much hurt by the improper method the ministry had taken to promote their friends to a seat in parliament, they resolved to oppose this nomination of the minister. Their zeal, on this occasion, was increased by an apprehension, that three or four other lords, exactly in the same circumstances with lords Irvine and Dysart, would soon be imposed on them by the same powerful influence, to the exclusion of other peers far more proper, on every account, to represent them in the house of lords.

"With these views, they fixed on a noble earl of an ancient family and independent fortune, who had often represented them in parliament before, and for no other reason, but because he was fit and willing, and on the spot, they made him their candidate. The ministry very wisely dropt the earl of Dysart; and it would still have been a greater proof of their wisdom, if they had left the peers entirely to their own choice; but they set up the earl of Stair, against whom there lay no objection, and they seconded his pretensions by a fresh circular letter from the earl of Sandwich, just then made secretary of state.

"The lords in opposition to the nomination of the minister took this worse than they had done the first letter: They considered it as an open insult on the whole peerage, and a particular affront to them who had informed the ministry of their resolution to vote for Breadalbane.

"On

"On the day of election, which I attended, there were present twenty-eight peers; seventeen of whom, of what consideration you will see [P. 62.] voted for lord Breadalbane, and eleven for the earl of Stair.

"There were eighteen signed lists presented; of which one, the duke of Gordon's, named lord Dysart; one, the earl of Hopeton's, named lord Breadalbane; the other sixteen were for the earl of Stair.

"Several of the lists were objected to, and protested against, as illegal and informal by the lords who voted for lord Breadalbane; and one general protest was taken by them all on reading the return; the precise object of which, as it was not then taken down in writing, I am not able to tell you.

"I must not forget to observe to you, who live in a place where decency seems to be banished from public assemblies, that though many protests were taken, and men's passions were warmly engaged, yet the most perfect decorum and politeness was preserved by all who spoke: many of whom declared that their opposition was in no degree personal to lord Stair, whose abilities and independent fortune rendered him very fit to represent the peerage of Scotland. The other candidate himself was the first who paid him that compliment.

"I cannot omit to tell you, that the part the duke of Buccleugh has taken in this affair, has raised him very high in the opinion of all ranks of men in this country. The prompt decision of his conduct, and the alacrity with which he came down to Scotland to join an opposition formed on such honourable motives, strongly mark his character, have set him at once in the most conspicuous and estimable light to those of his own order, and gained him the warm approbation of every person of sense and of spirit. The very friends of the candidate whom he opposed could not resist the favourable impression which the appearance and conduct of this nobleman made upon them; and all ranks of men unite in admiring and praising this illustrious youth, who is the supporter of the royal authority when attacked, and the friend of the minister when he acts right: but, at the same time, the defender of the dignity of the Scottish peerage, and the opponent of the minister when he acts wrong."

It is reported that admiral Elphingston has quitted the Russian service, and is coming home.

By various accounts from different parts of the north of Ireland, we learn, that the rioters, called Hearts of Steel, are daily increasing in number; that more than one half of them are composed of the rioters formerly called Hearts of Oak, and the White Boys.

Extract of a letter from an officer of the royal regiment of artillery at Woolwich, dated Dec. 31. 1770.

"We have great appearances of war being declared in a short time against the Spaniards; the dockmen here work night and day; and yesterday, although it was Sunday, they were at work all day, fitting out two or three line of battle ships that are here. Orders came down from London, for two companies of artillery to march for Portsmouth and Plymouth immediately. There is an augmentation to all the regiments, both horse and foot, and a very considerable one to our regiment, having got a new battalion added to us. We have now four battalions of artillery, of eight effective companies each, and two invalid companies to belong to each battalion, which are to garrison the different ports in England, Scotland, &c. Recruiting parties are going out to all quarters from this, as by this new regulation, we want about 400 men."

We learn from Reith, in the North Riding of Yorkshire, that, on the 31st ult. a young woman went to a mill to get some corn ground; but, on her return, the river was so swelled, that she was carried down, and drowned: and what is remarkable, the constable who went for the coroner, died on the road through the inclemency of the weather; and the coroner, being the first person riding that road, found the constable dead.

Extract of a letter from Aberdeen.

"Last week a soldier and a farmer travelling together, lost their way in the snow: the farmer, unable to travel any longer, lay down: the soldier stuck his staff into the snow and put his hat a-top of it, that he might the more readily find his companion, and went off in quest of assistance to a house which the farmer directed him to, but could not reach it, and was found dead next morning: the farmer was found alive by some people, whom the hat and stick had directed that way, and is now in a fair way of recovery."

On Saturday night, as a young man of this city was returning home from Stenhouse-mills, he was attacked by three fellows near Gorgie, who robbed him of his watch and money, and beat him

him in a moſt cruel manner, threatening to murder him if he looked after, or took any notice where they went.

We have the pleaſure to inform our readers, that, from a generous concern for the poor of this city, who are almoſt totally excluded from public worſhip, and with a view to accommodate many reſpectable inhabitants, who cannot be provided with ſeats in any of the nine pariſh churches, a ſubſcription is now opened for building a large chapel, in which the ordinances of religion are to be diſpenced by a miniſter in full communion with the eſtabliſhed church, who ſhall be ordained or admitted to the exerciſe of his office by the preſbytery of Edinburgh.—The propoſals bear, that, beſides a large area, capable of containing with eaſe two hundred perſons, which is to be left altogether free in the middle of the houſe, three hundred of the ſeats, at leaſt ſhall be rented at a ſum not exceeding one ſhilling ſterling *per annum*, for each ſeat: That the firſt miniſter ſhall be elected by the majority of thoſe who ſubſcribe 5l ſterling or upwards, towards the building of the houſe; which majority ſhall likewiſe ſettle the mode of future elections, and ſuch a plan of adminiſtering the revenue ariſing from the ſeat-rents and collections, and all the other affairs of the houſe, as they ſhall judge moſt ſubſervient to the pious and charitable purpoſes for which the chapel is to be erected.—Subſcription-papers are lodged with Meſſrs William Alexander and ſons, Meſſrs Walker and Strachan, Meſſrs Scot Moncrieff and Ferguſon, merchants in Edinburgh, and Mr William Dickſon dyer there, who will likewiſe receive the contributions of any who favour this laudable deſign, but do not chuſe to ſubſcribe.

BIRTHS.

Jan. 8. At London, the lady of the hon. col. Fitzroy, brother of the duke of Grafton, of a daughter.

——. 11. At ditto, the lady of earl Gower, of a daughter.

——. 12. At Edinburgh, Mrs Erſkine of Dun, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

——. —. In Salem county, in the province of New York, the hon. John Vining, Eſq; ſpeaker of the houſe of aſſembly.

Dec. 3. At Rome, the rev. Thomas Wagſtaffe, a clergyman of the church of England, who had reſided there many year in the character of Proteſtant chaplain to the late Chevalier de St George, and afterwards to the PRINCE his ſon.

Jan. —. At London, the rev. Dr Gregory Sharpe, maſter of the Temple, fellow of the royal and antiquarian ſocieties, and chaplain in ordinary to his majeſty.

Jan. 5. At Kenſington, the right hon. lady Shelburne, lady of the preſent lord. Her ladyſhip was daughter of John earl of Granville, and was married Feb 3. 1765.

——. 6. At Benwell, near Newcaſtle-upon-Tyne, Mr John Dowſon. He was, for ſome years, a joint-manager of the theatre in Edinburgh, before it became a theatre-royal.

—— 6. At ——, Dr James Fairbairn of Eaſter-Migvy, Aberdeenſhire.

——. 8. At London, in the 90th year of his age, the right hon. Marmaduke Langdale, lord Langdale.

——. —. At Liverpool, Dr Thomas Mackenzie, man midwife.

—— 10. At Edinburgh, Mrs Elizabeth Moray, ſpouſe of Mr David Græme, advocate.

—— 11. At ditto, Mr James Cochran, merchant in this city.

—— 12. At his houſe in Linlithgowſhire, William Maxwell of Carriden, Eſq;

—— 13. At Edinburgh, George Lockhart, ſon of gen. James Lockhart of Carnwath.

—— 16. At ditto, the hon. Mrs Margaret Primroſe, daughter of the late James viſcount of Primroſe.

CIVIL PROMOTION.

St James's, Jan. 12. The king has been pleaſed to conſtitute and appoint the right hon. John earl of Sandwich (in the room of the right hon. Sir Edward Hawke, knight of the bath, who has reſigned), John Buller, Eſq; the right hon. Henry viſcount Palmerſton of the kingdom of Ireland, Charles Spencer, Eſq; commonly called lord Charles Spencer, the right hon. Wilmot viſcount Lisburne of the kingdom of Ireland, Francis Holburne, and Charles James Fox, Eſqrs; to be his majeſty's commiſſioners for executing the office of lord high admiral of Great Britain and Ireland, and the dominions, iſlands, and territories thereunto reſpectively belonging.

PRICES *of* GRAIN *at* HADDINGTON, Jan 11.

	First.		Second.		Third.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Wheat	18	0	17	0	16	0
Barley	13	8	12	10	11	6
Oats	11	10	10	8	9	0
Peaſe	11	6	9	0	8	0